

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 20605 01 OF 02 120657Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-14 ISO-00 SSM-05 CIAE-00
DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02
SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 SAA-01 SES-02
OMB-01 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 /107 W
-----085165 120706Z /14

O 120648Z SEP 78
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3548
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION SINAI
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 CAIRO 20605

USICA FDR PGM/RC

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PEPR EG IS US XF
SUBJECT: CAMP DAVID STILL IN DECISIVE STAGE

SUMMARY. PRESS CONTINUES THEME THAT CAMP DAVID TALKS
HAVE ENTERED DECISIVE STAGE, AND THAT WHILE DIFFERENCES
ARE DEEP THERE IS NO STALEMATE. EGYPTIAN DELEGATION IS
REPORTED TO BE REAPPRAISING SITUATION. PRESS BELIEVES
U.S. IS PRESSURING ISRAEL AND THAT PRESIDENT CARTER
HAS INTRODUCED AMERICAN MODIFICATION OF ISRAELI PROPOSALS.
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PAGE 02 CAIRO 20605 01 OF 02 120657Z

THERE IS SPECULATION THAT TALKS MAY CONTINUE AT FOREIGN
MINISTER LEVEL LATER IN SEPTEMBER. END SUMMARY.

1. SEPTEMBER 12 PRESS REITERATES CAMP DAVID TALKS ARE
IN CRITICAL STAGE, NEXT TWO DAYS WILL BE DECISIVE, AND
PRESIDENT CARTER IS MAKING CONCENTRATED EFFORTS TO REMOVE
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE SIDES. HEADLINES CITE WHITE

HOUSE SPOKESMAN AS SAYING DIFFERENCES ARE STILL DEEP BUT CONFERENCE IS NOT STALEMATED. EGYPTIAN DELEGATION REPORTEDLY UNDERTAKING A COMPLETE REVALUATION OF THE SITUATION.

2. CHIEF ISSUES. AHRAM'S CORRESPONDENTS NOTE THE FOURTH TRIPARTITE MEETING IS YET TO BE SCHEDULED. QUOTING "SOURCES CLOSE TO THE CENCE", PAPER CLAIMS THAT TWO MAIN ISSUES ARE: (1) EXTENT AND TIMING OF ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM THE WEST BANK AND GAZA, AND (2) MEANS OF DEALING WITH THE PALESTINIAN PROBLEM IN A WAY WHICH MEETS ISRAEL'S SECURITY REQUIREMENTS WHILE SATISFYING PALESTINIANS' DEMAND FOR SOVEREIGN HOMELAND. GUMHURIYYA'S HODA TEWFIK REPORTS SIMILARLY, SPECIFICALLY NOTING THAT SINAI DISCUSSED BUT NOT A MAIN SUBJECT.

3. POSSIBLE CRITICISM. AHRAM, DRAWING FROM UPI, SAYS CARTER PRESENTED SADAT WITH AMERICAN MODIFICATIONS OF ISRAELI PROPOSALS. IF SADAT ACCEPTS THESE, TALKS WILL CONTINUE LATER THIS MONTH AT FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL. (SEPTEMBER 11 ROSE AL YUSSUF MAGAZINE SIMILARLY PREDICTS TALKS WILL RESUME IN CAIRO IF DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES EMERGES FROM CAMP DAVID. CITING "INFORMED SOURCES", MAGAZINE PREDICTS ANOTHER CONFRONTATION STATE COULD JOIN NEGOTIATIONS. IF ISRAEL CONTINUES INTRANSIGENT, "REPORTS FROM WASHINGTON" INDICATE EXTRAORDINARY UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 CAIRO 20605 01 OF 02 120657Z

SECURITY COUNCIL SESSION LIKELY.)

4. U.S. PRESSURE ON ISRAEL. HODA TEWFIK AND AKHBAR'S MAHA ABDEL FATAH AND MOUSSA SABRI ALL POSIT THAT U.S. COMPROMISE PROPOSALS AND BALANCE OF BILATERAL MEETINGS INDICATE PRESSURE ON ISRAEL. LATTER TWO CORRESPONDENTS ALSO VIEW VP MONDALE'S PARTICIPATION AS INDICATION USG SEEKING GREATER ISRAELI FLEXIBILITY. TEWFIK AND SABRI ARE PESSIMISTIC ON NEGOTIATIONS: ISRAEL HAS NOT CHANGED ITS STAND ON RESOLUTION 242 AND, SAYS SABRI, TALKS HAVE MADE NO PROGRESS. SABRI IS NOT CONVINCED CARTER WILL SUCCEED IN CONVINCING BEGIN CHANGE HIS POSITION. ISRAEL CONTINUES TO VIEW CONFERENCE MERELY AS MEANS FOR CONTINUING DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS.

5. OPTIMISM. LIMITED CIRCULATION AS-SIYASI QUOTES INFORMED U.S. SOURCES AS SAYING LIKELIHOOD OF CONFERENCE'S SUCCESS EXCEED CHANCES OF FAILURE. PAPER PUTS LIKEHOOD OF POSITIVE OUTCOME AT "70 PERCENT", FOLLOWING INITIAL DISCUSSAT CAMP DAVID. THREE LEADERS SAID TO BE ATTEMPTING REACH "DEFINITE VIEWS"

ON EACH SUBJECT. MEETINGS EXPECTED CONTINUE UNTIL END
OF WEEK.

6. COMMENTARIES. AKHBAR CLAIMS THAT RESULTS OF CAMP
DAVID WILL BE DECISIVE, WHETHER SUMMIT SUCCEEDS OR FAILS.
EGYPT PREPARED FOR ANY EVENTUALITY. GUMHURIYYA, NOTING
OPENING OF ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL, LAMENTS THAT LACK OF
ARAB UNITY WILL PREVENT COUNCIL FROM STANDING BEHIND
EGYPT'S EFFORT AT CAMP DAVID. COUNCIL MEETING REPORTEDLY
ROUTINE DESPITE CRISIS IN LEBANON AND MOMENTOUS SUMMIT
IN U.S.

7. SADAT'S TRAVELS. AKHBAR'S MDUSSA SABRI PREDICTS
SADAT WILL VISIT FRIENDLY ARAB CAPITAL BEFORE RETURNING
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PAGE 04 CAIRO 20605 01 OF 02 120657Z

TO CAIRO. GUMHURIYYA INDICATES THIS WILL BE MOROCCO.

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 20605 02 OF 02 120658Z
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UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 CAIRO 20605

USICA FOR PGM/RG

PAPER STILL EXPECTS SADAT TO SPEND TWO DAYS IN AUSTRIA.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
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Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: PEPR, EG, IS, US, XF
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbcc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8dd7df51-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
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